



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Preventing
environmental
damage from
hazardous waste,
and restoring
contaminated
sites for all
Californians.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, May 2006

Removal of Contaminated Soil from the So. Cal Edison Substation

We invite you to review and comment on a proposed plan to remove contaminated soil at the Former Corona Manufactured Gas Plant (Site), located at 633 Railroad Street, between Cota Street and Sheridan Street, in the City of Corona, California. The Site is located in a mixed industrial and residential part of the City, and is currently occupied by an unmanned electrical substation owned and operated by Southern California Edison (SCE). The Site is also adjacent to the railway line owned by Burlington, Northern and Santa Fe.

Our agency is the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). Our role is to protect public health and the environment. We are overseeing the investigation and cleanup at the Site. The cleanup team includes DTSC, Southern California Edison Company (SCE), and their contractors.

Site history

The Former Corona Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) was established in 1903 by the Corona Gas and Electric Company and operated as an MGP from 1904 until 1921. During this time, crude oil was used for the production of manufactured gas. In 1921 the property was purchased by Southern California Gas Company and until about 1942, the Site continued to be used as a gas holder facility. In 1936, a strip on the northeast side of the Site was deeded to the Pacific Company who produced gas for

OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: JUNE 8, 2006

WHERE: RIVER ROAD PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

1100 WEST RIVER ROAD

CORONA, CALIFORNIA

TIME: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

We will hold an Open House to give you the opportunity to learn about the project and give us comments on the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) and draft Negative Declaration. We invite you to submit comments during this time. Additionally, you may submit written comments to us no later than June 14, 2006. See page 2 for more details

For information on accessibility (wheelchair ramps, etc.) or to request a reasonable accommodation (such as translators or sign language interpretation) please call Derrick Alatorre at 714-484-5474 at least one week prior to the meeting.



one year. By the end of 1922, the Corona MGP buildings and equipment had been dismantled. The Site continued to be used as a gas holder facility until about 1942. In 1947, the remainder of the Site was sold to the California Electric Power Company, which was acquired by SCE.



Photo: View of Site looking westward along Railroad Street; Site is located within the fence line that runs along the sidewalk.

Chemicals found at the site

Soil sampling investigations were conducted in 1992 and 1996. The compounds detected at elevated concentrations at the Site include **polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons** (PAH), **total petroleum hydrocarbons** (TPH), and **volatile organic compounds** (VOCs) consisting of **benzene**, toluene ethylbenzene and **xylene** (BTEX) and metals (primarily arsenic).

Not a risk to the public

According to a health risk study completed in 1999, the Site does not present an immediate health risk to the public because it is covered with asphalt, gravel or concrete, which acts as a barrier preventing direct exposure to the contaminated soil.

How we plan to clean the site

Our proposal to clean the site includes:

- Excavating and removing the contaminated soil to depths of approximately 2 to 12 feet;
- Hauling the soil classified as non-hazardous waste in trucks to an approved treatment facil-

ity in Adelanto, California, for treatment and thermal desorption;

- Hauling any soil classified as hazardous waste in trucks to a landfill facility in Kettleman Hills, California, for disposal;
- Backfilling the excavation with clean imported soil, followed by compacting and grading;
- Total duration of clean up activities and backfilling is estimated to be 12 weeks;

Health and safety provisions

To protect the public, we propose to:

- Lightly spray the soil with water to control dust;
- Cover and secure any piles of soil at the end of every day; and,
- Cover trucks carrying soil with tarps.
- Once the trucks have left the property, they will travel east on Railroad Street to Grand Boulevard, south on Main Street to the 91 Freeway east, then north on the 15 Freeway to Adelanto.
- Trucks leaving the Site will be covered with tarps and truck tires will be brushed of soil before leaving the Site;
- Flagmen will direct trucks entering or exiting the Site to minimize traffic impacts.

It is estimated that an average of 11 trucks per day will leave the Site, assuming a total excavated soil volume of 6,000 tons and approximately 3 to 4 weeks of soil excavation activity. Hours of operation will be from 7:00 am to 5:00pm

Our findings about the effects on the environment

We studied the possible effect of the cleanup itself on the environment as required by the State law known as the California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA. For example, we looked at whether the digging and hauling will disturb wildlife or habitat, cause dust pollution, or interfere with traffic patterns. These efforts are documented in an Initial Study. We determined that the cleanup would not have any significant negative effect on the environment. We describe our study and this conclusion in a Draft Negative

Declaration that is available for review and comment during the same period as the draft RAW and Initial Study.

How to submit your comments

The public comment period will begin May 15, 2006 and end June 14, 2006, during which time you may provide us with your comments or questions on the draft RAW and the associated draft Negative Declaration. All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by June 14, 2006, and sent to:

Ms. Onamia Chun, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
Email: OChun@dtsc.ca.gov

Before making a final decision on the draft RAW, we will consider and respond in writing to all comments received. If necessary, the draft RAW may be modified based on comments we receive.

What happens next

When the final RAW is approved, fieldwork may begin in Summer of 2006 and should take approximately 3 months. Field activities should not have a significant affect on nearby properties.

Who to contact for more information

If you have questions regarding Site activities, please contact any of the following DTSC staff:

Ms. Onamia Chun
DTSC Project Manager
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
714) 484-5451
ochun@dtsc.ca.gov

Derrick Alatorre
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
(714) 484-5474
(866) 495-5651 (toll free)
dalatorr@dtsc.ca.gov

For media inquiries, please contact:

Sandra Friedman
Public Information Officer
Department of Toxic Substances Control
(714) 484-5383
sfriedma@dtsc.ca.gov

Information repositories

We invite you to learn more about the Former Corona MGP Site. All the reports including the draft RAW, Initial Study and other Site-related documents are available at the following locations:

Corona Public Library
Library Reference Section
650 South Main Street
Corona, California
Phone number: (951) 736-2382

Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630
Please call (714) 484-5354 for an appointment to view the documents.

Notice to the hearing impaired

You can obtain additional information regarding this site by using the California State Relay Service (888) 877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Derrick Alatorre, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5474.

Glossary of Terms

Arsenic - A gray, brittle and highly poisonous metal. It is used as an alloy for metals, especially lead and copper, and is used in insecticides and weed killers. In its inorganic form, it is listed as a cancer-causing chemical under Proposition 65.

Benzene - A petroleum derivative widely used in the chemical industry. A few uses are: synthesis of rubber, nylon, polystyrene, and pesticides; and production of gasoline. Benzene is a highly volatile chemical readily absorbed by breathing, ingestion or contact with the skin. Benzene is listed as a cancer-causing chemical under Proposition 65.

California Environmental Quality Act - First enacted in 1970 to provide long-term environmental protection, the law requires that governmental decision-makers and public agencies study the significant environmental effects of proposed activities, and that significant avoidable damage be avoided or reduced where feasible. CEQA also requires that the public be told why the lead public agency approved the project as it did, and gives the public a way to challenge the decisions of the agency.

Negative Declaration - A California Environmental Quality Act document issued by the lead regulatory agency when the initial environmental study reveals no substantial when any significant effects would be avoided or mitigated by revisions agreed to by the applicant

Polycyclic Hydrocarbons – Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are a group of over 100 different chemicals, which are formed during the incomplete burning of coal, oil and gas, garbage, or other organic substances. Many PAHs are known or suspected carcinogens.

Volatile Organic Compounds - Organic liquids, including many common solvents, that readily evaporate at temperatures normally found at ground surface and at shallow depths. They take part in atmospheric photochemical (sun-driven) reactions to produce smog.

Xylene - An aromatic hydrocarbon used in gasoline, paints, lacquers, pesticides, gums, resins and adhesives. It is toxic and flammable.